

REMARKS

It will be noted that independent claims 1, 14, 21 and 22 have been amended to remove the word "deployment" and clarified to use the word "installation".

It will be noticed that the feature of historical usage data being taken from a database includes usage data taken from "other computing systems" and the cited Wood reference has no such disclosure.

The Wood reference has no information or intimation for using a database of historical usage taken from other computing systems.

The intent of Applicants' invention is to estimate, given a computing system with certain characteristics, the amount of time (and/or other resources) necessary to complete the installation of a software application.

This is done by building-up a database of previous installations, and then extrapolating (from previous installations) an estimate of the resources necessary for the next installation.

The amount of time required to install the application is predicted using a function shown at pages 10 and 11 of the specification. When a user wishes to estimate the time needed to perform the next installation of an application, the user can make use of the database of previous statistics.

There is no attempt to "optimize" the time in installing a software application-----the intent is to provide the user with an estimate of the time to perform an installation. This gives a user some choice as to exactly when to perform the software installation, since the user may

want to wait for a quieter period to do the installation so as not to disturb the work of other users at that particular time.

Another useful feature can occur---when a user may find that by adding more RAM, this decreases the installation time---so he may decide to upgrade the RAM.

Now, in regard to the concept of "Industrial Applicability", it should be remarked that the claims indicate the need for "access to a database" as part of the software installation of an application.

It is now felt that the amendments to the claims will resolve any uncertainty as to industrial applicability and the differentiative factors which distinguish Applicants' claims over the Wood reference.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lise A. Rode".

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